

A
DECLARATION
OF THE
COMMITTEE OF
ESTATES
OF THE
PARLIAMENT
of SCOTLAND,

In Answer to some Printed Papers,

intituled,

The *Declaration* of the Parliament of
England, and the *Declaration* of the
Army of *England*, upon
their March into
SCOTLAND.



Printed by Evan Tyler, Printer to the King's
most Excellent Majesty 1672

DECLARATION

OF THE
COMMITTEE OF

ESTATES

OF THE

PARLIAMENT
OF SCOTLAND

In Answer to the Declaration of the

Parliament of

The Declaration of the Parliament of
England and the Declaration of the
Army of England, upon
their March into
SCOTLAND.



Printed by James W. Printer to the Kings
most Excellent Majesty 1650.

Edinburgh July. 1650.

TH'E Estates of Parliament understanding that divers persons, Subjects of this Kingdom, with their ships and goods, had been lately seized at Sea, and carried into the Ports of England; And being likewise informed that an Army was marching Northward, to invade this Kingdom; Being resolved, so far as is in their power, to use all possible wayes and means to prevent War and Blood in these Kingdoms, did upon the 21. of June last, send two Messengers into England with Letters to Mr. Lenthall, Speaker of the House of Commons, the Lord Fairfax, and the Governour of Newcastle, Complaining of the Injuries done unto us, and desiring to know whether they would observe the rule and order prescribed in the large Treaty betwixt the Kingdoms, concerning the remonstrating first the breaches of Peace, seeking reparation, using all fair means, and giving three Moneths warning before any Engagement of these Nations in War; to which Letters, we did long before this time expect an Answer, but in place thereof, Our messengers are there detained, and a Declaration is emitted by those, who arrogate to themselves the Title of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of England, that they have judged it just and necessary, that an Army be forthwith sent into Scotland, which accordingly is advancing to our Borders to invade the Kingdom, without any previous Warning. The Justice of this their

(4)
undertaking, they offer to demonstrate from the late Invasion of *England*: Authorized and Commanded by the Parliament of *Scotland*, in which designe (they say) all of us concurred to make a Prey of the *English*, though some difference fell amongst us who should have the greatest Power of Command, and thereby the greatest opportunity of advancing of either party, under the specious pretence of the Covenant.

This doth not well consist with what they say, Page 3. Concerning such in this Nation who may have kept themselves free from the guilt of these things, and far lesse doth it consist with the truth, but we desire not to be our own Judges in the matter, let them ask their own Consciences whether ever any people in the World did more evidence their freedom from guiltinesse in a time of defection then we did in that matter of the Engagement against *England*: Did we not dissent and protest in Parliament against it? Did not all the Judicatories of the Church unanimously oppose it, and declare against it? did not the Ministers faithfully and freely Preach and Pray against it, and generally all that feared G O D in the Land Petition against it? did they not suffer for not concurring in it? Yea, many choole rather to expose their Lives and estates to the mercy of their Adversaries tyrannizing over them, then to contribute one six-pence toward the furthering of that Engagement, whereof the Commissioners of both Houses residing in this Kingdom were witnesses, as by some of their number was represented to the House of Commons, who upon consideration thereof, wrote a Letter to the General Assembly, Professing they were assured that these impious and unwarrantable Actions could not be done with the approbation and assent of the Religious and wel affected people of the Kingdom of *Scotland*, and that they did understand there was very few amongst those who were in the Engagement against them that first engaged with them in the

Covenant

Covenant and Cause, but such as are *professed Enemies* to them, however they were then content to proceed thereunto, that they might the better deceive the people of *England*, and that therefore they were unwilling to impute such evils to this Nation in generall: Did we not before we heard any thing of the defeat of the Engagers resolve to rise in Arms against the promoters of it, & being in Arms did we not refuse to make any agreement with them, though never so much to our advantage, untill in the first place *Berwick & Carlisle* should be restored to the Kingdom of *England*, Concerning which, L. Generall *Cromwell* professed in his Letter of the 15. of *October* 1648. that he should ever be ready to bear witness of our forwardnesse to do right to the Kingdom of *England*, and in a former Letter of the 19. *September*, Acknowledgeth our care of the Interest of *England*, and desire to preserve the unitie of both Nations: Did not both Houses of Parliament by their Votes of the 28. *September* 1648. appoint, that in case the Noblemen and others that dissented against the Invasion of the Kingdom of *England*, by the Army under the Command of the Duke of *Hamilton* shall desire the assistance of L. Generall *Cromwell* that he be ready to afford them all seasonable relief and assistance? which Votes were communicated to us by Lieut. Generall *Cromwell* himself, and in the same Letter, after a particular enumeration of all the wrongs and dammages sustained by the Kingdom of *England* from the Engagers, he did demand, in the name of *England*, this security, that none who had been active in, or consenting to the laid Engagement, should be employed in any Publick place or trust what ever, which was accordingly granted by the Committee of Estates, and ratified in Parliament. Did We not also send Commissioners to both Houses of Parliament to Treat and correspond with them in all things which might concern the continuance of the former Amicitie and Friendship betwixt the Kingdoms, and authorised to joyn with them in presenting the Propositions

of Peace to his Majesty, which Commissioners were received, and our Interest in the Propositions of peace acknowledged by both Houses of Parliament. This is a short, but true account concerning our carriage in relation to that Engagement, & how matters stand betwixt us and the lawfull authority of *England*. And as touching those who now quarrell with us, if their own consciences condemn them not (as we have reason to think they do) there is one greater then their consciences, even the *Lord Jesus Christ*, who knoweth all things, let Him Judge between us concerning the truth or falshood of that which they would charge upon us, that all of us concurred in designe to to make a prey of the *English*, though some difference tell out who should have the greatest power of Command. It is not the first time we have met with Calumnies of this kinde from that party, but we shall studie to bear it the more patiently; that still it is for our adherence to the Cause of *Christ* we are reproached: And as for the good people of *England*, we trust they will not readily give belief to such suggestions against the well affected of this Kingdom, when they consider we have two severall times returned from *England* with strong Armies, when there was better opportunity to have prosecuted such delignes.

Touching what is farther said upon this point, to aggravate the miscarriages of the Engagers, in their taking of *Berwick* and *Carlisle*, & invading *England* without an antecedent warning, We have nothing to say on their behalf, their proceedings were palpably grosse & inexcusable; But if their wayes were sobad, why do these, who now prevail in *England*, trace their steps, not fearing their end, Will they justifie themselves in that very thing for which they have condemned others? We desire they may remember some expressions of a Letter written to us by Lieu. Generall *Cromwel* and his Countsell of War the 18. September 1648. shortly after the defeat of the Engagers, the words

words are these: Give us leave to say, as before the Lord who knows the secrets of all hearts, that as we think a speciall end of Providence, in permitting the enemies of God and goodnesse in both Kingdoms to rise to that height, and exercise such tyranny over His people, was to shew the necessity of Unity amongst His of both Nations, so we hope and Pray, that the late glorious dispensation in giving so happie successe against your and our Enemies, may be the foundation of the Union of the people of God in love and Amity, and that end we shall (God assisting) to the utmost of our power, endeavour to perform what may be behinde on our parts, and when we shall, through any wilfulnesse, faile herein, let this Profession rise up in judgement against us, as having been made in hypocrisie, a severe venger of which God hath lately appeared in his most righteous witnessing against the Army under Duke Hamilton invading Us, under specious pretences of Piety and Justice; We may humbly say, We rejoyce with more trembling, then to dare to do so wicked a thing.

We may here also correct a mistake of theirs, where they say, by the Treaty six moneths warning was to precede Warre; tis strange how they have learnd to multiply when they Ipeak against others, and to mince in relation to themselves; But because it may be long since they read the Treaty, We shall passe that, and only desire to know how it comes, that not only contrary to the Treaty, but to the law of Nations and common reason, they have, without any previous warning, seized our ships, stopped our trade, and now have published a Declaration, shewing their resolution forth with to send an Army into this Kingdom, even the late Engagers (who are justly condemned for not giving previons warning according to the Treaty) sent particular demands to the Houles of Parliament three moneths before invasion, which they declared they would prosecute, and about a moneth before invasion, they published a Declaration of their resolutions to march

march into *England*.

Another ground of the justice of their undertaking is, that they being invited to come into *Scotland*, and having settled us in the power we now enjoy, wee exercise it for their destruction, That wee rose on us to determine what is fundamentall in their Government, & direct & threaten them if they change not what is now established, & form is to our minde or accomodate it to our interest, which they say is sufficiently cleared by the Protestation of our Commissioners the Earl of *Lothian*, Sir *John Cheiflie*, & Mr. *Glendonig*, who have been owned & justified by the Parliament of *Scotland*, and no censure passed upon them.

Wee shall first answer to this alleadged invitation, They say Sir *Andro Ker*, and Major *Strachan* were sent to them for that purpose, the letter then written was directed to the Commander in chiefe of the forces of the Parliament of *England*, which wee heard were upon the borders, and we held it very necessary for us to acquaint the Kingdom of *England*, or any intrusted by them, that we dissented and protested against that unlawfull engagement, and were then in Arms in opposition to the contrivers & abettors thereof, and were firmly resolved not to lay them down, untill the garrisons of *Berwick* & *Carlisle* were restored to the Kingdom of *England*; Wee likewise gave instructions to these Gentlemen, But neither in the letter, nor instructions, as may be seen by the printed copies published by order of the House of Commons, is there any call given for the coming of the English forces into this Kingdom? We did only signifie to the Commander in chiefe of the English forces, that we were to send to the Houses of Parliament to desire their assistance, and that by joynt counsellis and forces, the disturbers of the peace of both Kingdoms may be brought to tryal and condign punishment, and that we expected the English forces on the borders should be in readinesse to concurre with us when we should give them a call, yet before any other addresse made by us either to

the

the Houses of Parliament or to those forces, yea before the answer of our letter came to our hands, L. G. *Cromwell* marched into this Kingdom with his forces, without waiting for our call, which we did not intend to have given to them; but to have desired the assistance of the Houses of Parliament, with whom this Kingdom had joyned in Covenant, and to whom we had formerly given assistance; In the next place, we were to have desired that those who were sent might be such as had signed the Covenant, and would preserve and defend the doctrine and discipline of this Church, according to the Covenant, and particularly, that none such should be sent as would disturb the peace of this Church, or vent strange opinions contrary to the Confession of Faith, directory of worship, and Church-Government. In the third place, that their number should not exceed four thousand. And lastly, that the Garrisons of *Berwick* and *Carlisle* being restored, and the engagers being subdued, or having submitted, the English forces should remove out of this Kingdom; Therefore so soon as wee received Lieutenant General *Cromwells* letter signifying that upon defeat of the forces under command of the Duke of *Hamilton*, he had received commands to prosecute the victorie untill the Enemy were put out of condition of growing into a new Armie, and the Garrisons of *Berwick*, and *Carlisle*, were reduced; in order whereunto, he had resolved to march into *Scotland*, we dispatched away the Lord Marquis of *Argyle*, Lord *Elcho*, and others unto him with Instructions, desiring that the number of the forces should not exceed four thousand, that such as should come were qualified as is before expressed, And that the Garrisons of *Berwick* and *Carlisle* being restored, and those in Armes against us having submitted, his forces should return to *England*.

As matters then stood, though we were very unsatisfied with many of the proceedings of that Armie, yet we could not but looke on them as the servants of both houles of Parliament, by

whose authority they acted, and to whose commands and directions they professed obedience and subjection; wherefore the Houses of Parliament having, upon knowledge of the State of affaires in *Scotland*, appointed Lievtenant Gen. *Cromwel*, by their votes 28. September, 1648. to afford us assistance; which votes were communicated to us by Lievtenant Gen: *Cromwel*, on the fift of *October*, after serious debate and consultation upon the matter, wee judged it lawfull for us to accept from the houses of Parliament their offer of assistance, and accordingly desired that some of the English forces might stay here for some time, and when they were to return to *England*, we wrote a letter to both houses of Parliament, wherein we Acknowledged the benefit and advantage we had by the assistance of their forces, and gave them a testimony concerning their fair and civill deportment during their abode amongst us; all which wee are yet ready to acknowledge, and wish that these who had the charge and command of these forces would with the same readinesse acknowledge that they were then clearly convinced in their consciences of the reality of our detestation of, and opposition to the late unlawfull Engagement against *England*. But though wee have owned them sometime as servants of the Parliament of *England*, will this infer that we should own them now as their masters; by what law have they succeeded to their masters inheritance, and clothed themselves with all the power of *England*; have they not since that time they were in *Scotland*, violently seized the person of their King, and murdered him in the face of the Sun? have they not turned the point of their swords against the Houses of Parliament who gave them Commission to rise in Arms, and whose priviledges they were sworn to defend? have they not taken away the House of Lords, imprisoned divers, and secluded most of the House of Commons? have they not overturned both civill and ecclesiastick Government, and in place thereof brought in a lawlesse liberty, and godlesse

godlesse Toleration, notwithstanding their manifold Declarations and solemn engagements to the contrary: had we known them as well when they were in *Scotland* as wee do now, wee would have looked upon them as the Prophet *Elisha* did on *Hazael* the servant of *Benhaddad* King of *Syria* when he weeped because of all the evill *Hazaell* was to do unto the children of *Israel*.

They doe next charge us with Ingratitude, claime to themselves the title of being our preservators, and say we Exercise the power we have received by their means to their destruction, This might well have been spared, if they had remembred what assistance and preservation they had from this Kingdom, when they were very low, and their greatest Commanders (though then not very considerable) were countenanced because of their high professions for Religion and Monarchicall Government; Let the letter from *L. G. Cromwell*, and other Officers of that Armie written from their quarters about *Bristow*, to the Scottish Armie after the defeat of our forces at *Kilsyth*, speake what was their own sense of the releefe and assistance afforded them by the wellaffected in *Scotland*, and we shall be silent. Though wee would not detract from the commendation of any, even adversaries coming in a hostile way against us, but shall be ready to acknowledge all their good deeds; Yet wee may say, that while they were in *Scotland*, they neither shed their blood, nor sustained hardship for us, nor will the time they stayed be much above a week, for every yeare that the Scottish Armie, stayed in *England* for their assistance, And for any power which is in our hands, it hath been continued therein by the Established lawes of the kingdome, and the Lords blessing on lawfull and warrantable means, and therefore wee are to exercise it for the honour of God, and the ends of that solemn Covenant which both they and wee have sworn with uplifted hands to the most high, and it cannot be made appeare that we have in the least sort exercised

exercised our power to their destruction, unless they conceive their destruction to be included in the attainment of the ends of the Covenant which wee are inviolably obliged by the oath of God to endeavour in our stations and callings. But they insist, that wee pretend to matters of their Government, and take upon us to determine what is fundamentall there, and threaten them to forme it to our interest, which they say is sufficiently cleared from our owning and approving the protestation made by our Commissioners at *London*, and our not censuring them: surely they are farre to seek for a ground of Invading us, when they would found it upon that protestation. Is there any thing in it but a representation of their engagements & declarations, a sober regrave that they have not been kept, an earnest desire that they may be observed for the future, and in case they should proceed otherwise, a protestation that wee might be free before God and man of the guiltines, evils, confusions, miseries and calamities that might follow thereupon to these distracted Kingdomes; Is it not Lawfull for us in a comon cause, wherein wee are both concerned, if wee apprehend them proceeding in an ill course contrary to our engagements, to warn them of it, and if they will not forbear, for our own exonerat[i]on to declare that wee will not concurre with them, nor be Involved in the guiltines by our silence: Will they quarrel with us for a meer profession of adherence to our principles? will they for this, now after 16. Moneths are past, come in a hostile manner to invade this Kingdome, dissolve our Judicatories by the sword, conquer and subdue the nation, force upon us a change of government Civil and Ecclesiasticall, Establish Anarchie and toleration under the pretence of furthering our just freedom and of preferring the peace and love of the Gospel to discipline and Government: How disagreeable is this to their own principles of liberty and toleration? The scriptures tell us that men may think it strange that we run not with them to the same excesse of riot, but for

men

men of one Nation to conquer, subdue and destroy another Nation because they will not run with them, is almost a new thing on earth; however wee shall comfort our selves in this, that wee have not given them just grounds of offence, and that they shall give an account to him that is ready to judge the quick and the dead.

And these are the two grounds of the justice of their undertaking to invade this Kingdome, our acclension to the late engagement against *England*, and the owning of the Protestation made by our Commissioners, touching the first of which, We dare say, their own consciences are convinced of our Innocency, and touching the second, that their own judgments may freely absolve us from all just ground of offence, if they be not altogether blinded.

We shall proceed to consider in the next place their pretences for the necessity of this War. First, they say all faire and amicable wayes of procuring reparation of the damages which *England* hath sustained by occasion of the late Invasion, have been denied, and rejected; and so We have owned the wrongs done to that Nation. First, We answer, that no application hath been made to us for any reparation, except in one Letter 23. *May*, 1649, and therein their demands for satisfaction were Generall; and therefore in our return 26. of *June*, 1649. We say they cannot so well receive a particular answer; how then have all amicable & fair wayes been used, when there was only one letter written, and that in generall terms; Secondly, the way proposed by them for obtaining satisfaction was such, as we could not agree to without sin, for they proposed that we should meet and treat with Commissioners authorized by them, on the behalfe of the Common-wealth of *England*, which was to acknowledge them the lawfull authority of *England*, which we look upon as sinfull to doe, being bound by Covenant to maintain and defend the Priviledges of the Parliament of *England*, which if it amount to

any thing, both at least require that we hold them as the lawfull authority of *England*, and shall not give their titles and styles to any other that by force would usurpe the same, and seeing the wrong complained on, was done against *England*, when the Houses of Parliament were unquestionably the lawfull power in *England*, and now the complaint is made by those that have usurped that power, let any unprejudiced minde judge, whether there be not cause for us to make it a case of conscience, considering the strict Obligations betwixt us and the Parliament of *England*. Neither doe those, who would so earnestly have us to acknowledge them propound any thing to rid us out of this difficulty, for we suppose they will lay this common ground with us, that every new power which shall arise in any *Kingdome*, and prevaile by force, is not forthwith to be acknowledged by the neighbouring Nations, the very heathen Nations will stand at some distance in this case, & forbear to acknowledge, much more ought we to be tender in Christian and Covenanted Kingdoms. Now it is clear and evident, that there is a change both of Governours and Government in *England* of late, and how this change comes, they will not allow us to examine, if we speak any thing relating thereunto, they tell us that we take upon us to determine what is fundamentall there. It is strange to see what latitude they can allow themselves in their own Actings, even to break and dissolve powers at their pleasure, laying aside formes (as themselves expresse it) for the substance sake, yet how exact are they in setting up their own form, requiring even from neighbouring Nations, the observance of the smallest *punctilio* in their knowledgment of their new Titles and Stiles, otherwise they will count it a ground of Invasion.

Thirdly, Wee proposed to authorize Commissioners on behalfe of this Nation, to treat with Commissioners of both Houses of the Parliament of *England* sitting in freedome, concerning all matters of just complaint which either Nation may

may have against the other, & for redresse & reparation thereof, and to do every thing that may conduce for the happy Peace & Union betwixt the Kingdoms, & never refused to speak & commune anent any particular wrongs or redresses thereof in such a way, as did not import our Acknowledgement of their unlawful Titles, and unlawful Parliament, which justly we esteem the present pretended Parliament to be; for it hath often been declared by many Acts, Ordinances, Declarations and Protestations, that the Parliament of *England* doth consist of King, Lords and Commons, and should never be altered: and in the beginning of that Parliament, it was enacted by King, Lords and Commons, that that same very Parliament should never be raised, nor dissolved, without consent of both Houses of Parliament.

Fourthly, We answered to the matter of that Letter sent to us, so far as the generality of the expressions would guide us to conjecture what they meant, and if any other wrongs should be made known to us, we promised to return such an answer as might give just satisfaction: and untill this Declaration came to our hands, We never understood that they were unsatisfied with our Answer, for that dormant Declaration of theirs, dated the 14. *July*, 1649. never came to our hands, either in write or Print till now, nor do we think that ever it saw the light, till the publishing of their other Declaration of the 26. of *June* last, 1650. which came to our hands but the other day; Now then can they with a good conscience say, that all fair and amicable wayes have been used and rejected.

Fifthly, Although we cleared our own innocencie in the matter of that Engagement, yet when it was demanded, that those who were guilty, should not be employed in places of publick trust, it was granted accordingly; and it was never craved (and so was never denied by us) that they should be lyable to give satisfaction for the wrongs and dammages sustained by *England*; And while they demand satisfaction, they might very well have remembered

remembered that the mony and great Spoil which they got from that engaging Army, was very considerable, and should likewise have remembered that the *Irishes* who were Subjects of the Crown of *England*, had contrary to the large Treaty wherein *England* was bound to suppress them, done much more harm in this Kingdome, and that no reparation or satisfaction was given, though frequently and earnestly pressed, all which being considered, it is most apparent, that all faire and amicable wayes have not been used, and so the inference which they would make, that we have owned the wrongs and damages done by the late Invasion of *England*, falls to the ground. The next reason of the necessity of their Invasion of *Scotland*, is taken from the design and resolution which they say we have to invade *England*. And this they would have appear, first, because when they demanded a Treaty for satisfaction for the former Invasion, we have in expres termes, declared our selves enemies to the Government of their Common-wealth. This hath been already cleared, that we cannot acknowledge them to be the lawfull authority of *England*, which they would assume to themselves excluding the King, the House of Peeres, and the farre greatest part of the House of Commons. We would gladly know, vvhhat Law, Reason, or Conscience, there is obliging us to acknowledge their usurpations to be lawfull actions, and though we have professed that we cannot acknowledge them, and declared our resolution not to comply vvvith them, how doth it follow, that therefore vve have resolved to invade *England*, have we not often declared our judgement against Popery, and Tyranny in other Nations, yet, neisher did they fear, nor we so much as dream of an intended Invasion.

Secondly, They would prove our intended Invasion of *England*, in that we have taken upon us to proclaim the Kings Majesty, whom they term *Charles Stewart*, to be King of *England*.

land and Ireland, and in our Treaty since have promised him assistance against England, to which we answer, That we claim no authority or Jurisdiction over them, and when the King was proclaimed, our Records were searched, and he was proclaimed with the same titles his Father was proclaimed both in England and Scotland, he was first proclaimed in England as King of Great Britain, and then in Scotland, and neither Nation took exception against the other, or conceived that there was any claim of Jurisdiction, or any Invasion intended, more then there was in relation to France, of which he was proclaimed King by both Kingdomes, and as to the promises made in the Treaty of assistance against England, there is nothing of that kinde in the Treaty, but that which hath been long since published to the world in the proceedings of our Commissioners the last year, to wit, that this Kingdome would contribute their utmost endeavours by all necessary and lawfull meanes according to the Covenant, and the duties of faithfull and Loyall Subjects, that his Majesty may be restored to the peaceable possession of his other dominions, according to his undoubted right of succession, which both Houses of the Parliament of England, and those who make this pretence of Invasion of this Kingdome, did protest and declare they would never wrong nor alter.

And further, The Estates of Parliament have declared to his Majesty, that the expressions of the Treaty concerning our endeavours for his restitution to his other dominions, shall not import any Engagement or Obligation upon this Kingdome to make Warre in England or Ireland, without the previous consideration, and determination of the Parliament of this Kingdome, and the Generall Assembly of this Kirk, or the Commissioners of this Kirk, concerning the lawfulnessse and necessity thereof, which was never so much as taken into consideration in either of them to be debated, much lesse to be determined, and our Letter 6. of March, renewed the 22. of June last, declar-

reth our obligation, and resolution to observe the Articles of the large Treaty, so that it remains very clear from our proceedings, that there was no design layed, or resolution taken by this Kirk or Kingdom, to invade the Kingdom of *England*.

Fifthly, They say the Engagers refused to treat with the Parliament of *England*, and they were answered only with the immediate March of an Army into *England*, therefore we having refused to treat with them, they are to expect the like, but the difference is very wide and manifest, both in relation to persons and proceedings, if they had considered all things duely, they should have ranked us with the Houses of Parliament, and themselves with the Engagers, for their wayes are not unfruitable. What they allege concerning the refusall of a Treaty with them hath been answered abundantly, Neither have we marched immediately after our Answer into *England*, as the Engagers did, there are now 12. Moneths elapsed since our answer to their Letter, and they will finde us yet in *Scotland*.

Fourthly, they say, we have equally declared against them as Sectaries as against those of *Montrose* his party, ranking them with Malignants and Papists, though we know the fact which they professe. But our declaring against Sectaries in *England*, doth no more prove a design to invade them, then our declaring against Malignants in *England*, or the bloody rebels in *Ireland*, or Papists in *France* or *Spain*, doth prove a design to invade them. To declare against the sinfulness of any course of back-sliding apostasie or rebellion in another Nation, (either for our own vindication from jealousies and suspicions, or to warn the Subjects of this Kingdome to keep themselves from the like defection, and from complacency) or the declaring our judgement in a way of friendly admonition, will not be found a probable ground to argue, much lesse to be an evidence of a designe to invade another Nation, there may be many sufficient grounds which may warrant to give a testimony against an evil course,

confesse that will not give a good calling to make a War against
 it. Concerning the Faith which they professe and say, cannot but
 be known unto us, this is the first confession of their faith that
 we have seen, and it is so short, that we shall not wrong them to
 comment upon it, untill they shall be pleased to give us a larger;
 but touching the desire which they professe to restrain licenti-
 ous practises, and to have them punished by the Magistrate, they
 can never satisfie the world, nor the most charitable disposition
 that is in it, that there is any such desire in their hearts so long
 as their practises be quite contrary, the fig-trees leaves of flou-
 rishing words, may seem to serve for a covert, wherein to lurk
 from the eyes of men, but how do they think to escape the search-
 er of hearts, before whom all things are naked; yea, we think
 they should be ashamed to say it before the world, that they are
 ready to beare witness against licentious practises, and desirous
 to restrain and punish them, and yet for all their readinesse and
 desire, be silent and sit still, we wish they did not countenance
 and encourage them, and shewed not themselves too ready and
 active against others, who strive to keep their garments cleane,
 and to be free of that contagion. When they have laboured to
 vindicate themselves, they returne to cast aspersions upon us, and
 would have it believed that interest, dominion and profit un-
 der presence of Presbytery and the Covenant, is our designe
 wherein (though we be conscious to our selves of many sinnes
 and infirmities in the prosecution of the work of the Lord, yet)
 since we are so grossely charged, we trust we may in humility and
 sincerity of heart, desire that he who knoweth the secrets of
 hearts, may judge between them and us, whether they doe not
 falsely accuse us, and vve seriously exhort them to consider
 whether under the pretences of preferring the Peace and love of
 the Gospel, to the Discipline & Government of the Church, they
 be not undermining and subverting the Ordinance and Govern-
 ment of Jesus Christ, that they may let up the devices of their

own heart, and erect a sanctuary for errors, heresie, and schisme. And now having answered the reasons given by them to make it appear that we had a designe to invade *England*, we shall give clear evidences that we neither had, nor have any such designe. First, The Estates of Parliament having about the end of *February* 1649. received severall Intelligences that there was a design in *England* to invade this Kingdome, did then appoint a levie of horse and foot, but withall, declared (as is expressed in the narrative of the said Act of Levie, then published in Print) that they did enjoin it only for the meer just and necessary defence of this Kingdome from Invasion without any design or intention, against any who shall not first invade this Kingdome, and so soon as they understood that the forces raised in *England*, were marching for *Ireland*, they made stop of their Levy. Also upon the 6. of *March*, 1649. they wrote a Letter to Mr. *Lenthall* Speaker of the House of Commons, declaring that it was very farre from their intention to assume any power over the Lawes and Government of *England*, or any wayes to raise sedition, or lay the grounds of a new Warre, or doe any thing in pursuance of the late unlawfull Engagement, and that no such thing could be inferred from the paper given in by their Commissioners containing only an adherence to our former Principles acknowledged by both Kingdoms. That they were so tender of the union betwixt the Nations, that they did think the remonstrating of the breaches of Peace, the craving of just reparation, and the using of all fair and amicable means, should be first essayed; and then three moneths warning should be given according to the large Treaty before any Engagement in warre, and they expected the like from *England*, and however any prevalent party in either Kingdome, had infringed, or might break these bonds, yet they did not conceive it either agreeable to Gods will, or conduccable to the welfare of these Nations, to lay those sacred ties aside, as dissolved and cancelled, but rather that they should be

be preserved for the good of both Kingdomes, and benefit of those who have no accession to such branches, and of succeeding generations, who are innocent thereof, and may sustain manifold inconveniences, by dissolution of the same.

To this Letter we never received any answer, nor any reply to our Letter of the 16. *June*, but all this spring for these three or four months past, have weekly heard of great preparations made against us, both by Sea and Land, yet untill the Estates of Parliament understood that the *English* Forces were upon their March North-ward, and some of our Ships were taken at Sea, they did not so much as make ready for our Defence, and so soon as they took any resolution therein, which was about the middle of *June* before they made any dispatch to the Shires: Upon the 22. of *June* they sent Messengers to *England* with Letters to Mr. *Leinhal*, Speaker of the House of Commons and others, wherein they complain of the wrongs done unto them, and desire redresse; declare their obligations and resolution to observe the rules, prescribed in the large Treaty, before any engagement in War, and desire to know whether these who have the present power in *England*, do acknowledge themselves obliged, or will oblige and declare their resolutions to observe the way and order aforesaid, and plainly and clearly to declare, whether they march for offence or defence, and withall acquainted them in that Letter, that they had renewed the Acts of Leavy, and for Posture of Defence, made the last year, wherein the same narrative is kept, as in the former, and in the power granted by the Parliament to the Committee of Estates: It is expressly excepted and reserved that they shall not have any power to give orders to the Forces of this Kingdom for any other ends, then for the just and necessary defence of this Kingdom.

Upon the whole matter, there is neither justice nor necessity of their present undertaking against us, nor can it be said that

all fair and amicable wayes and means which were used have
been refused, but on the contrary, we have since that pretended
refusall used the means to prevent a War, and yet an Army is
on our Borders ready to invade us: Wherefore we may safely
conclude that there is no just cause, much lesse any necessity
for them to invade this Kingdom, and if they shall invade us,
that we are obliged by all Laws, both of God and man to
stand to our own just and necessary defence. *2u Kings 24*

Whilst this Declaration was under consideration, there was
another sent unto us by a Trumpeter from L. Generall Crom-
well, Intituled, *A Declaration of the Army of England, upon
their march into Scotland*, to which, except where we meet with
repetitions, we have resolved to make a further answer,
And first to the way of addresse, set down in the front
spice of that Paper, It is not directed to those in Authority,
more then to any other persons in the Kingdom, but after this
manner, *To all that are Saints and partakers of the Faith of Gods
Elect in Scotland*: So, as if there be none in Authority, whom
they apprehend Saints, it is directed to none of them, Can
there be a more lively portraytour of Anarchie in the World
then this? and that varnished over with the colour of Piety
and Religion? or can there be a more seditious, usurping way
devised, to draw away the hearts of the people from their
obedience to Authority? May we not here with great reason
return them their own words, *They pretend to matters of our
Government, and take upon them to determine what is funda-
mentall here, and direct and threaten us, if we change not what is
Established, and form it to their minde, or accomodate it to their In-
terest*, And may we not justly declare against them, as they did
in another case, most unjustly against us, *That the said Paper
doth contain much scandalous and reproachfull matter against the
just proceedings of the Parliament of this Kingdom, and an assu-
ming to have power over the Laws and Government of this Nation*

to the high dishonour thereof. And lastly, a designe in the contri-
vers of it to raise sedition, and lay the grounds of a new War in this
Land. They begin with sugared words, wishing like mercy
and truth, light and liberty with themselves, but are march-
ing with an Army to conquer and subdue us cruelly, under er-
ror, darknesse and slavery; and then they further preface, with
a desire to make a distinction and separation betwixt some and
others in this Kingdom; but, blessed be the Name of the
Lord, there is not a different thought amongst all the godly in
this Land concerning the unlawfulness of their Invasion; and
the lawfulness of our defence against the same. They boast
much of their great successes, and reproach the Great Name
of the Lord of Hosts, fathering upon him their transgressions,
but consider not that the Lord might have a hand of justice,
in the same things wherein they had a hand of injustice
and that he in His wise dispensation can correct one extreame
by another, and yet remain displeased with both. They be-
gin also with an appeal (concerning the truth of the particu-
lars, which they are to remonstrate) to the Lord; who should
they come to day of engagement (they say) will be a fore
witness against them; if they utter these things out of Hypo-
cricse, and they end with another appeal concerning the truth
of what they have said, desiring the God of Heaven to Judge
them accordingly, when they come to meet their enemies in
the field, to which we shall say no more, but beseech the Lord
to look upon these provocations, and to vindicate the honour of
His great Name.

They labour in the first place to make good their proceed-
ings in relation to the late King, from his actions, which we
intend not to justify, But who made them the Kings Judge? or
where is there warrant to take his life: When such a thing
was suggested to David (though anointed King of Israel)
against Saul, who was rejected of the Lord, he said, *The Lord*
forbid.

(22)
forbid that I should do this thing; wickedness proceedeth from the
wicked, but mine hand shall not be upon him. They endeavour to
vindicate their actions against the Houses of Parliament,
and concerning the change of the fundamentall Government
from the true and equitable intent of the constitution of Eng-
land, which we shall not insist upon to answer, but we think
they might with as great confidence have said to us, that white
is black, and black is white, and bring arguments to make us be-
leeve it to be so in England. They would also cleer their proceed-
ings from the example of ours, in the year 1648. for (say they)
We acted contrary to Acts of Parliament, and called a new one,
excluding whom we thought fit, all which was done by
vertue and authority from the Committee of Estates, which
was no Committee, being constituted of such persons, as by
Act of the foregoing Parliament had not legall right to sit or
Act therein, they not having taken the Oath in reference to
the late engagement which was enioyned by Parliament, or
else to have no place therein.

To which we answer, that whatsoever we acted, was in per-
formance of the solemn League and Covenant, and Treaties be-
twixt the Kingdoms, which are above any Act of Parliament,
and according to which, the Committee of Estates were by their
Commission bound and appointed to mannage the affaires of
the Kingdome. The solemn League and Covenant, being an
oath to God allowed and appointed by the authority of both
Kingdomes, cannot be repealed, or made void by any subse-
quent Acts of Parliament though of both Kingdomes, nor can
all the powers on earth absolve those that have taken it from
their duty therein expressed, by vvhich they are bound all the
dayes of their lives, zealously & constantly to continue in main-
taining and pursuing the ends thereof against all opposition, and
to promote the same according to a full power against all lets
and impediments vvhatssoever.

2. What we acted was for our ovvn just defence against an actually oppressing Army, whose proceedings were so wicked and boundlesse, as they were not only contrary to the Covenant and Treaty betwixt the Kingdomes, but to the very Acts and Determinations of the Parliament from whom they had their Commission.

3. Though the Members of the Committee of Estates were appointed at their first meeting in the Committee, to accept their Commission, and give their oaths for faithfull discharge of the trust reposed in them, in reference to the Engagement against *England*, or else to have no place therein, yet there is nothing in the Act of Parliam. declaring their proceedings null, and void, in case they did not take the Oath aforesaid, and the Engagers themselves did admit some to sit and vote, who did not take that Oath: will it therefore necessarily follow, that all which they did, was in Law null and void? Besides, the last Act of Parliament concerning the power of the Committee of Estates, doth not at all limit the Members to any Oath.

4. It was agreed in the Treatie at *Sterling*, by common consent, that such Members of the Committee of Estates, as were accessory to the Engagement, should forbear coming to the Committee of Estates, untill the next Selsion of Parliament, to which, the determination of differences were referred, and our whole proceedings were ratified by the Parliament, and now also by the Kings Majesty.

We have not done any thing against our Vowes, Oaths, Covenants, Protestations and Declarations, as they have done, but in pursuance of them, we have acted in our own defence against visible and actually tyranny and oppression, not upon jealousies or suspitions against a Parliament, consulting and voting peaceably, as they have done. We have adhered to the Lawes and Constitutions of the Kingdom, and have not altered the fundamentall Government thereof, as they have done, without

any power, warrant, or calling. But what suppose they were able to justify their proceedings, as they are not, what would that contribute for to make up a just ground for invading the Kingdom, even suppose they had the authority of both Houses sitting in a full Parliament, and the Kings consent thereunto, they have no power or jurisdiction over this Kingdom, the Lord hath been pleased these many hundred years to preserve our Freedome, whilst there was little knowvledge of the Gospel in the Land: And vve do confidently trust in his Name, and are persvaded, that hee vvill not novv give us up to the vvilland povver of those that vvould bring in Darknes for Light, Errour for Truth, and in stead of Government, make vvay for Toleration, Anarchie and Confusion.

If Treaties be urged against them, they were broken, say they, by the full Authority of the Parliament of *Scotland*, they very well know the contrary, that a very considerable number of the Parliament protested against it (which certainly even in Law much weakened the Authority) and that it was revoked by the full Authority of Parliament, and the House of Commons, in their Letter to the Generall Assembly, hath acknowledged us free of it, and our Commissioners have been since admitted and received by both Houses of Parliament, and our Interest in the Treaty acknowledged, as hath been already more fully expressed. How well can they take upon them to personat the Houses of Parliament (whom they have broken in pieces) in making up challenges against us, but they will not owne their actions in any thing that may plead for us. They insist, that the breach is not made up so, as to challenge *England* on agreements, unlesse we think that *Scotland* may break, and *England* should remain bound, whereas it is a known Law of Nations, that in the breach of the League by the one party, the other is no longer obliged; We never said, either that the one Kingdom could be free, and the other bound; or, that the one King-

dom

dom having broken, the other was obliged to keep, if reparation of the wrong done was refused, but that notwithstanding a prevailing Party break, yet both Kingdoms are bound still against the breaking Party, and that reparation ought to be made. This will appear, if the scope and intent of the large Treaty made betwixt the Kingdoms, be considered, as it is expressed, to wit, That the great blessing of a constant and friendly conjunction of the two Kingdoms, now united by allegiance and loyalty, all subjection to one Sovereigne and Head, may be firmly observed and continued to all posterity, it is agreed, &c. And words to the same purpose are again twice repeated, the severall cases of breaches of the Peace which may fall out, and the way of remedy are set down: for Commissioners are appointed in the Intervals of Parliaments for conservation of the Peace, to which Commissioners in the Intervals, as afterward to Parliaments, all breaches are to be remonstrated, which had been altogether needlesse, if every breach of the Treaty had made it null and void: According to this sense, the Houses of Parliament have formerly declared, particularly in the year 1641. when there was some appearance of the beginning of trouble in this Kingdom, the Houses of Parliament did in their sense and apprehension of the Nationall Alliance betwixt the Kingdoms settled and confirmed by the large Treaty and Act of Parliaments of both Kingdoms declare, that they were bound to apply the Authority of Parliament and power of *England* to the preservation & conservation of our Peace, &c. when the troubles of *England* did grow to a greater height, about the end of the year 1642. the Houses of Parliaments did again declare, that seeing the subtile practice of the common Enemy of the Religion and Liberty of both Nations, did then appear in *England*, with more evidence, strength & danger than it did in *Scotland* the former year: therefore in their judgment, the same obligation did ly upo their Brethren of *Scotland* by the afore mentioned Act, with

the power & force of this Kingdom to assist *England* in repressing these amongst them who were in arms against the Parliament, & for destruction thereof from which & other Declarations, and the expresse meaning and intent of the Treaty, it may be easily collected that what wrong is done by the common enemies of both Kingdoms, though it ought to be repaired, yet it is not to be looked on as that which should cancel and dissolve the Treaty and the mutuall amity and alliance that is betwixt the Kingdoms; but that either Kingdom ought when they are desired and called thereunto to be assistant to other in their straits, and the treaties ought to continue undissolved, and to be preserved for the good of the present and future generations, unless it be intended that they shall for ever hereafter remain in hostility, or that the one shall conquer the other, for they cannot be tyed by stricter bonds then they are already.

If the Covenant be alleaged against them, they affirm they have kept it religiously, which they would make out by a distinction thus; The Articles concerning Religion and civil Liberties have the first place in the Covenant (say they) and these which concern the Kings Interest and constitution of Parliament the last, and these with subordination one to another, the Covenant tyed them to preserve Religion and libertie as the ends of it, even when these were inconsistent with the preservation of the Kings Interest and the frame of Parliament, because when the means and the end cannot both be enjoyed together the end is to be preferred to the means. That there was a real inconsistency, because the Houses accepted of his Majesties concessions at *Newport*, which were destructive to Religion and the Covenant, and acquiesced therein, but the Armie appeared against them, and to Religion and liberties are preserved; But first there is no such distinction in the Covenant betwixt Articles, as that one is a
 CI
 meane

meane, and another an end, though each of them may conduce to the strengthening another, the ends are expressed in the title, narrative and Articles thereof, and are unitive and copulative not disjunctive, nor is there any inconsistency betwixt the Articles and ends thereof, otherwise it had been unlawfull for to have taken the Covenant. And the third Article, with which they quarrell most, doth oblige us expressly to endeavour the prosecution thereof with the same sincerity, reality and constancy as the rest, Neither regall nor Parliamentary Government are in their own nature inconsistent with the preservation of Religion, It were absurd to say so, both reason and experience evidencing the contrary, and there is great fallacie in the argument given to prove their inconsistency, for the Instance is concerning the actions of Governments, which are said to be destructive to Religion. But what is that to the Government, they might as well have reasoned thus; The *English Army* did in the year 1647. offer proposals to the King, which were destructive to Religion, therefore the Army must be taken away, and we will have no more Armies: It then the preservation of Religion and the civil Government be consistent, as the Covenant it self doth necessarily presuppose, then certainly our endeavours to preserve them may very well consist, and ought to be performed with sincerity, reality and constancy, and unavoidably it will follow, that an endeavour to destroy any of them is a cleare breach of, and inconsistent with our Covenant and oath to God, their distinction then falls to the ground, and consequently their conclusion, so that their endeavouring to destroy and actually destroying the King, and changing the fundamentall Government, is in our judgement so far from being a keeping of the Covenant, as it is a cleare and evident breach thereof.

It mig^t have been much more strongly argued for *Zedekiah* then

then any thing that can be said in the present case, that the keeping of his oath, made to the King of *Babylon* was destructive to Religion, and inconsistent with his dutie to God, as King of *Israel*, and with the civil liberties of the people of God; when the King of *Babylon* had spoiled the temple and carried away all the Princes, all the mighty men of valour all that were apt for war, and all that were crafts men and smiths, that the Kingdom might be base and not lift it self up, yet what saith the Spirit of G O D, Shall he prosper? Shall he escape that doth such things? Or shall he break the Covenant and be delivered? As I live saith the Lord God, surely in the place where the King dwelleth that made him King, whose Oath he despised, and whose Covenant he brake, even with him in the midst of *Babylon* shall he die.

When it was alleadged against the late engagers, that their invading *England* was contrary to the 5. Article of the Covenant, by which they were obliged to endeavour that the Kingdoms may remain conjoynd in a firm Peace and union to all posterity, they were ready under the pretences of endeavouring the reformation of Religion, the rescuing of his Majesties Person and preservation of the priviledges of the Parliament of *England*, to declare before God and the world that they were resolved never to break the Union betwixt the Kingdoms, nor to entrench upon the Nationall rights of the subjects of *England*, or their liberties, not considering that the Articles of the Covenant were unitive and copulative, and that the Covenant is broken, and not kept, when any one Article thereof is broken. And now under the like pretences of the advancement of Gods glory and the furthering just freedom, the Secyaries are invading *Scotland*, contrary to that 5. Article of the Covenant, but the same Lord who avenged the quartill of His broken Covenant upon the late Engagers, lives

and reigns to avenge it upon the Sectaries.

Whereas they mention their appearing against the Houses of Parliament, who had accepted of the Kings concessions at *Norport*, which were destructive to Religion; and that thereby they have preserved both Religion and Liberty, how do they know that Religion and Liberty would have been destroyed if they had not appeared: the Lord could have preserved them by lawfull means, and stands not in need of sinfull assistance to accomplish his work: But how they can say to those that fear the Lord in *Scotland*, that Religion and Liberty are now preserved, we very much wonder, let them read over that testimony of the Kirk of *Scotland* against Toleration, (from which they borrow that proof that the Kings concessions were destructive to Religion) and compare it with the state of Religion this day in *England*, and they shall find in the Judgement of the Kirk of *Scotland*, Religion is by that Army endeavoured to be destroyed, and not preserved. As their arguments from inconsistency doe not, so these taken from the subordination of the ends of the Covenant, will much lesse help them; Gods Ordinances are not contrary to, nor destructive of other, Christ commands us to give unto God what was Gods, and also unto *Cesar* what was *Cesars*, which is agreeable to that known maxim *subordinata, non pugnant*, some duties doe deserve preference to other, yet never so, as to take off the obligation of endeavouring to perform other duties so farre, as is in our power, much lesse doth it allow us a liberty to doe the contrary, we should not be carnally wise, and over anxious about the issue, but ought to perform duties according to Gods revealed will, and leave the event to him. The Malignants under a pretence of doing duties to the King, neglect all duties to God; and the Sectaries under pretence of Religion and Liberty, neglect all duties to the King, but neither of these wayes have been blessed of God; the Malignants have never done reall service to the King, but were seeking their own interest, and end.

and ends under the pretence of his service; so the Sectaries for all their fair pretences to preserve and defend Religion, are but destroying it, & can dispense with oaths and sacred Covenants, in order to their own interest; making Religion sublervient to their particular ends.

When the Covenant is alleaged against their proceedings for changing the civill Government, the Army saith that they have kept it religiously, and they labour to answer objections to the contrary, by distinctions, granting that they have altered the form, but say they have kept the substance, but those who claim to be the Parliament of the Common wealth of *England*, would seem to deal more ingenuously in their Declaration of the 14. *July*, 1649. for say they, the Parliament hath not by the Covenant Treaties and Declarations, excluded it selfe from the use and exercise of the supream legislative authority, to alter, repeal, and make voyd any thing whatsoever, appertaining to the Government of that Nation, or if they have, it is not to be imagined, that any Covenant, Treaty or Declaration in that behalf, could be binding in things which a Parliament cannot give away from it selfe; or lastly, if any thing of that kind could be urged from the Covenant, Treaties, and Declarations, the late Invasion of *England* hath cancelled it, and made it invalide, as to any obligation upon *England*. They plainly disclaim all obligations by the Covenant, in relation to the preservation of the form of Government, yet what strange subterfuges are here, perhaps they would be thought to have some regard to the Covenant. In a word, that which they say, is, either there is nothing in the Covenant, which restrains the use and exercise of the legislative authority in altering any thing appertaining to the Government of that Nation, or if there be any thing in it of that nature, it is not binding, or if it be binding, the late Engagers of *Scotland* have loosed it, and so it is cancelled. Is it not a wonder to see how men can so dally with the oath of God, and how their

consciences

consciencs can rest upon such doubtfull alternatives, and yet in
all this hesitation and darknesse, act so forwardly. As to the first
case which they make, it is very clear that they are bound by
the Covenant all the dayes of their lives, to endeavour to pre-
serve the rights and priviledges of the Parliament, and if any
rights or priviledges, certainly these which the Parli. hath both
before, and since the taking of the Covenant, declared to be fun-
damentall, they are likewise to endeavour to preserve the Kings
person and authori y, in the preservation and defence of the true
Religion, and Liberties of the Kingdoms, that the world may
bear witness with their consciences of their loyalty, and that
they have no thoughts or intentions to diminish his Majesties
just power and greatnesse, and herein the legislative authority
is undoubtedly restrained and limited from all endeavours to the
contrary. And as to the second case where they say it cannot
be binding, they know they should not change, though they
swear to their hurt, the Almighty (blessed bee his glo-
rious name) holdeth himselfe obliged, to keep Covenant,
even with his owne Creatures, and shall not the creature
be bound to keep Covenant, when they swear to him. We
know not what a vast power they would ascribe to their legis-
lative authority, but as it is used, it seems to be like that mad-
man in the Gospel that brake all bands, so as nothing could
hold him fast. The power of dispensing with oathes is condem-
ned in Popes and Princes, and there is no reason to maintain
the same power in others. Neither will the third serve their
turn, to say that the late Engagers have broken the Covenant,
and so they are free, for the transgressions of others, cannot ab-
solve their consciences from the obligation of a Covenant made
with God, the knowledge of their sin and punishment, may well
aggravate their guiltinesse in the sight of God. We shall say no
more on this subject, but pray the Lord to direct us, sincerely
and uprightly to minde all the ends of the Covenant, and to
keep us from declining or shifiting the obligations which it lay-

eth upon us as some doe, and from that which others call a religious keeping of it, though they break it in some Articles. For Presbyteriall Government (they say) it is not to be imposed by force, but wherefore have they opposed by force the Establishing of it as was Ordained by the Houses of Parliament, and if they desire not themselves to be forced to any way, why came they in a hostile mannner to force their wayes upon us: Certainly that is no effect of Faith, working by Love.

They tell us of the danger we are in from Malignants, and bring in one instance from the proceedings of some Lords and others in the North of *Ireland*, and another from the late engagers against *England*, to which we say, that we are so far associating with Malignants, as we have neither admitted them to trust in our Counsels or Armies, nor permitted them to come into our armies, but have discharged them under high penalties, yet however, we do acknowledge there is danger from the pretences of Malignants, but that is no argument why we should not also beware of the smooth pretences and dangerous insinuations of Sectaries: We trust the Lord, who hath called us to a triall on both hands, will with the tentation give us the issue: We must not be discouraged, but rather count it all joy when we fall into divers temptations.

Concerning our agreement with his Majestie, we know there is scarce any possibility to satisfie those who have declared themselves enemies to Monarchicall Government, but we desire all good men to consider how we have been led thereunto by following our duty in prosecution of the Nationall and solemn League and Covenant. After the death of his Majesties Father, having sought the L O R D for his direction and had serious consultation amongst our selves, wee found it a duty lying upon us by Covenant (wherein wee have professed in the sight of G O D that wee had before our eyes the Honour and Happinesse of the K i n g and his Posterity, and made an appeal to the World as

witnesse

witnesſes with our conſciences of our loyaltie, and that we had no thoughts to diminifh his Majeſties juſt Honour and Greatneſſe) that we ſhould proclaim and declare to all the world his Majeſtie to be by the providence of G O D, and Lawfull Right of undoubted ſucceſſion and deſcent, King of Great Britain, France and Ireland, and that all the Subjects of this Kingdome were bound faithfully to obey Him, maintain and defend Him according to the Nationall Covenant, and the Solemn League and Covenant betwixt the Kingdoms, withall declaring, that before He were admitted to the exerciſe of His Royall Power, He ſhould give ſatisfaction to this Kingdom in theſe things that concerned the ſecurity of Religion, the Union betwixt the Kingdoms, and the good and Peace of this Kingdom, reſolving for that end, to make our humble and earneſt addreſſes to His Majeſty. This was the onely way left unto us to proſecute our dutie, without giving advantage to Malignants upon the one hand, who would admit Kings, without minding any thing of Religion, or elſe giving advantage to Sectaries upon the other, who without regard to the obligation lying upon them by Covenant, have altered the Fundamentall Government. Having made application to His Majeſty once and again, He hath now given ſatisfaction to all our Demands, for he hath ſworn and ſubſcribed the Nationall Covenant, and the Solemn League and Covenant, acknowledged the Authority of Parliament, and approved the acts thereof, agreed that all matters Civil be determined by the Parliament, or ſuch as ſhall be authorized by them, and all matters Eccleſiaſticall by the Generall Aſſembly of this Kirk, or ſuch as ſhall be authorized by them. He hath further agreed to recall and diſclaim all Commiſſions iſſued forth for acting any thing by Sea or Land, to the prejudice of the Covenant, or of the Kingdom of Scotland, or of any, who do or ſhall adhere to the Solemn League and Covenant and Monarchicall Government in any other of his Majeſties Dominions, and all Declarations

made by any in his name, or by his warrant against the same, and that he shall disallow and disclaim, or declare null and void all Treaties and agreements with the bloody Rebels in *Ireland*, and that he will never allow nor permit any liberty of the Popish Religion in any part of his Dominions; That he shall swear the Coronation Oath, and that he shall then declare he will in matters Civil follow the Counsell of his Parliaments, and such as shall be authorized by them, and in matters Ecclesiasticall, the Generall assembly, and such as shall be authorized by them. Having granted these Demands, and the Lord in his providence having brought him amongst us, and he professing his grief and sorrow for his former wayes, whereunto he was led by evill Counsell (of which we are bound to construct charitably, considering his age and education) The Estates of Parhament of this Kingdom, have thought it their duty to restore His Majesty to the exercise of His Royal Power: And if from a tender regard and conscience of the Oath and Covenant of God, we have been following our duty herein, and not for worldly Interests and designs, where is our offence? or what reason or just grounds can bee given by these who are now upon our Borders for invading this Kingdom? None of His Majesties actions before His coming into this Kingdom can in the least sort be charged on us, unless they had been owned by us, and for the future, it shall be our care, that there may be no just ground of complaint. As for the blood and other sins which the Lord may put on the account of the King, and that Family, we shall mourne before the Lord for it, and pray, that his wrath may be turned away, and that as the Lord hath now been pleased in his wife & gracious providence, to admit him to enter in Covenant with Him and His People, so also that he would give him a new heart and spirit, to so guide him in all his wayes, as may be matter of rejoycing to all that love the Lord, and may convince his greatest Adversaries, and stop their mouthes from reproaches. Themselves might be here

put in mind of that Scripture which saith, *I will avenge the blood of Jezreel upon the house of Jehu* : But we take no delight in re-
criminations.

To conclude, it hath been cleared, there is no just cause of their invading this Kingdom: For in the matter of the Engagement against *England*, we blesse the Lord, we are innocent; and for the testimony given by our Commissioners at *London*, and approved by the Parliament, it was necessary duty: Neither can there be any just pretence for the necessity of this War; all fair and amicable wayes have not been used. Wee have not refused to do them right. Wee had no designe to invade *England*; nor have wee given any other just ground of offence. Wherefore this War made without any just cause, necessity, or antecedent warning, is most unjust on their part, and most just on ours, being for our own lawfull and necessary defence.

Having answered their Declarations, we desire now to let the Kingdome know who are these that come thus in a hostile manner against us, are not these the men who in their low Estate by their solemn professions, of intending nothing but the Reformation, and defence of Religion, and the prosecution of uniformity therein between the Churches, and unity between the Kingdomes, the honour and happinells of the King, and his posterity, and the Peace and safety of these dominions engaged us in a solemn League and Covenant with God, and with them, and by Treaties to joyn in a Warre for these ends in the year 1643. and now in place thereof have by their crafty counsellors, undermining designs, and force of Armes obstructed and opposed the work of Reformation, established a multiplicity of Religions, destroyed the King and his family so farre as is in their power, overturned all Government Civill and Ecclesiasticall in *England* and *Ireland*, and cannot rest there, but have now resolved to prosecute a war against this Kingdom also, unless as we did swear a Covenant with them, we will renounce and for-

I swear it, and the ends thereof? are not these the men who are abusers of the Ordinances of God in our neighbour land, tolerators of errors, proclaimers of liberty, dispensers with Bands and Oathes in Gods matters, but rigid exactors and oppressors of persons, yea of Nations, in their Consciences, Liberties, and Estates, in their own matters, and for their own ends, who have brought great scandal and reproach upon the name of God, the the name of his people, and the study of piety, and who have not only broken the solemn and sacred Covenant betwixt God and these Nations, but have in effect rejected it, and trampled upon it, are become enemies to all the ends thereof, and persecutors of the servants and people of God for their adherence to it, doe they not follow the wayes of the Prelaticall and malignant party, who in the beginning of these troubles came to invade this Kingdome, but blessed be the Lord returned with shame, are they not walking in the same paths, that the late Engagers did against *England*, sinning with an high hand against God, his Cause, Covenant, and People, the sinfulness of their wayes, meanes, Instruments, ends, and symes, and the evident injustice of their quarrell against these who never gave them just ground of offence, make it apparent. We assisted and relieved *England* twice since the beginning of these troubles, and returned both times peaceably out of the Kingdome; Not only their own expressions, but their consciences can bear witness to our sufferings and opposition in reference to the late engagement, and will they requite us with War for our kind assistance? hostilitie for friendship, and render evil for good? Surely he seeth all these things, whose eyes run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him, and can speak peace unto their helpers, and bring in the day of his vengeance, and the year of recompence, for the quarrell of his broken Covenant, upon these who have set up Thresholds by his Thresholds, and Posts by his Posts, and not onely do so themselves, but endeavour to compell and force others to do

the

the same, do they thus provoke the Lord to jealousy; are they stronger
nor he? hath he not sworn by his great name, that his people shall know
whether his designs, or his enemies, his counsell or theirs; his word or
theirs, his work or theirs shall stand? In the pride of their heart, because
of former successes, and trusting to their Power, skill, and experience,
they think to doe with *Jerusalem* as with *Samaria*, with *Israel*, as with
Edom, and with the Covenanted people of God, as with Malignants,
against whom they were raised as a scourge and a rod of indignation; not
considering that when the Lords work is done, and the axe boasteth it selfe
against the hewer, then the Lord useth to send among their fat ones lean-
nesse, under their glory, to kindle a burning; and the light of Israel u-
seth to be for a fire; and his holy one for a flame to destroy the briars and
thorns, in one day saith the Lord. If we shall keep malignancy out of our
quarrell, and malignant Instruments out of our Counsels, and forces, and
our selves free from every thing which may provoke the Lord, and doe eve-
ry duty that may engage them for us; the case of the Ammonites against
Jephthah and Israel, the case of *Jeroboam*, against *Abijah*, the case of *A-*
maziah against *Joash*, the case of *Zennacherib* against *Sennacherib*, the case
of *Moab* against *Jehoshaphat*, and the judgments which came on these Inva-
ders; speak terror to our Adversaries that come against us, and courage
and comfort to the necessary defenders, for the Lord lives and reignes for
ever, to confirm the word of his servants, and perform the counsell of his
Messengers, and turneth the wisdom of the wise, and strength of the strong
backward, maketh the Diviners mad, and the despisers to wonder and pe-
nish, for he will work a work which they shall in no wise beleieve, though a
man declare it unto them.

Let us therefore arise and be doing for the Cause, and for the Cities
of our God, and the Lord will be with us, and will not forsake us, if we
forsake not him, And who then can be against us? He will be *Jehovah*
Nissi, and spread a banner of love over His people, and send the angel
of His presence among them for a sun and a shield, and will make *Je-*
rusalem a burdensome stone, a cup of trembling and a torch in a sheif
to all that dare meddle with *Sion*, and break the staves of beauty and
bands, and he will soon go through the briars and thorns set in battell
against him, for the Cause, and the battell is the Lords: Let us wait on
His salvation. There is cause of humiliation, when we consider our
formality in the Worship of God, our neglect of duties, of true piety,
our undervaluing of the precious Gospel, our unthankfulness for mercies,
our

our simplicity under judgements, our manifold backslidings of hearts, and
self-seeking our not minding as we ought the inward work of reformation,
& resting too much on the out-side of duties, the profanities of many in the
Land & in our Army, and many other transgressions. For these things we
should lie low in the dust, and acknowledge that it were just with the
Lord to leave us, to let our enemies prevail over us, and let in a deluge
of error, heresie, schisme and profaness to overflow the Land; But
there is no cause of fear or fainting, if we will consider that the Lord
delights to be called on, as a God who will keep Covenant and mercy
to, and with his people, notwithstanding their failings, if we look either
to the Lords former dispensations, or present engagements for his Work,
and the honour of his great Name, or if we will look to the enemies
quarrell, their aymes and designes, or to the resolutions of this Kirk
and Kingdom, to stand for the Cause and Covenant against enemies and
dangers on all hands. If the Lord had intended to destroy the Land, he
would not have done so much for us and amongst us, nor received a la-
sarsie off our hands; Though the enemy should come in like a flood
to overflow *Immanuel's* Land, His Spirit shall lift up a standard a-
gainst him, and not suffer His people to say a confederacy to such, but
shall magnific himself in the borders of *Israel*. Wherefore we desire all
the people of the Land to beware that they be not deceived and insnared
with the fair offers and smooth pretences of the Sectaries, whose words
are soft as butter and oil, but gall and bitterness is in their hearts and
actions; they have the smooth voyce of *Jacob*, but the rough hands of
Esau. And we do in the name and by the warrant of the Estates of Par-
liament discharge all persons whatsoever within the Kingdom to give
them aide, counseller assistance, or to correspond or comply with them
any manner of way, under the same paines and censurations that they
are discharged to joyn, assist, correspond or comply with Malignants and
Rebels in Arms.

Tho. Henderfan.

F I N I S.

